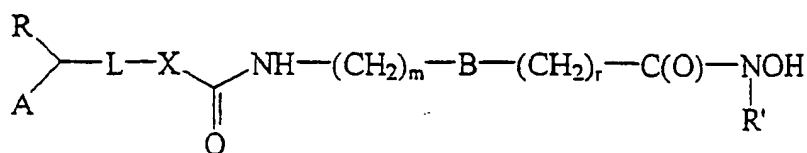


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-17 (cancelled).

18 (currently amended). ~~Compounds~~ A compound of formula (I):



(I)

in which:

R is hydrogen, C₁₋₄ alkyl or phenyl;

R' is hydrogen or C₁₋₄ alkyl;

A is phenyl substituted with one or more groups selected from: alkoxy, nitro, perfluoroalkyl, phenoxy, phenyl, phenylalkoxy, benzoyloxy, and thioalkoxy;

~~L is a chain of from 1 to 5 carbon atoms optionally containing a double bond or an NR' group in which R' is as defined above, or it is absent;~~

X is absent;

r and m are, independently, 0, 1 or 2;

B is phenyl.

19 (currently amended). ~~Compounds~~ The compound according to claim 18 in which R is hydrogen.

20 (currently amended). ~~Compounds~~ The compound according to claim 18 in which R is methyl.

21 (currently amended). ~~Compounds~~ The compound according to claim 18 in which A is phenyl substituted with at least one group selected from the group consisting of alkoxy, nitro, perfluoroalkyl, phenoxy, phenyl, phenylalkoxy, benzoyloxy and thioalkoxy.

22 (canceled).

23 (canceled).

24 (currently amended). ~~Compounds~~ The compound according to claim 18 in which m and r are equal to zero.

25 (canceled).

26 (currently amended). ~~Compounds~~ The compound according to claim 18 in which R' is hydrogen.

27 (currently amended). A compound selected from the group consisting of:
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-acetylamino]-benzamide;
~~N-hydroxy-4-(3-phenyl-butrylamino)-benzamide;~~

N-hydroxy-4-[3-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-propionylamino]-benzamide;
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-acetyl-amino]-benzamide;
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(4-ethoxy-phenyl)-acetyl-amino]-benzamide;
N-hydroxy-4-[3-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-propionylamino]-benzamide;
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(3,4,5-trimethoxy-phenyl)-acetyl-amino]-benzamide;
~~N-hydroxy-4-[2-(4-methylsulphanil-phenyl)-acetyl-amino]-benzamide;~~
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-acetyl-amino]-benzamide;
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(3-nitro-phenyl)-acetyl-amino]-benzamide;
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(3-phenoxy-phenyl)-acetyl-amino]-benzamide;
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(diphenyl-4-yl)-acetyl-amino]-benzamide;
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(2,3-dimethoxy-phenyl)-acetyl-amino]-benzamide;
2-[2-(4-hydroxycarbamoyl-phenyl)-carbonyl-ethyl]-phenyl ester of benzoic acid;
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(4-nitro-phenyl)-acetyl-amino]-benzamide;
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(2-phenoxy-phenyl)-acetyl-amino]-benzamide;
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(4,5-dimethoxy-2-nitro-phenyl)-acetyl-amino]-benzamide;
~~N-hydroxy-4-[2-(2-benzyloxy-phenyl)-acetyl-amino]-benzamide; and~~
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(2-nitro-phenyl)-acetyl-amino]-benzamide.

28 (currently amended). A The compound according to claim 27 which is N-hydroxy-4-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-acetyl-amino]-benzamide.

29 (canceled).

30 (currently amended). ~~Use of compounds of claim 18 for the preparation of medicaments with Method of treatment of an anti-inflammatory and/or auto-immune activity condition in a patient in need of such treatment comprising administering to said patient and effective amount of a compound of claim 18, for the treatment of diseases such as spondyloarthropathy, rheumatoid arthritis, acute alcoholic hepatitis, inflammatory syndromes of the intestine (Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis), asthma, diabetes, heart failure, intracerebral heamorrhage, psoriasis, atopic dermatitis, contact dermatitis, glomerulonephritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, chronic pulmonary obstruction, pulmonary fibrosis, multiple sclerosis, sepsis, septic shock, etc.~~

31 (currently amended). ~~Use of the compounds of claim 18 for the preparation of medicaments A method for the treatment of tumorous and/or neurodegenerative diseases in a patient in need of such treatment comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound of claim 18.~~

32 (currently amended). ~~Use of the compounds of claim 18 A method for the treatment of tumorous and/or neurodegenerative diseases in a patient in need of such treatment comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound of claim 18 and at least one active ingredient with anti-tumour action for the preparation of medicaments for the treatment of tumorous and neurodegenerative diseases.~~

33 (currently amended). ~~Pharmaceutical compositions containing the compounds~~ A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 18 mixed with suitable excipients and/or vehicles.

34 (currently amended). ~~Pharmaceutical compositions containing the compounds~~ A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 18 and at least one active ingredient with anti-tumour action mixed with suitable excipients and/or vehicles.

35 (new). Method according to claim 30, wherein said condition is selected from the group consisting of spondyloarthropathy, rheumatoid arthritis, acute alcoholic hepatitis, inflammatory syndromes of the intestine (Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis), asthma, diabetes, heart failure, intracerebral heamorrhage, psoriasis, atopic dermatitis, contact dermatitis, glomerulonephritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, chronic pulmonary obstruction, pulmonary fibrosis, multiple sclerosis, sepsis, and septic shock.